

**Introduced by Senator Ducheny**

April 20, 2009

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 34—Relative to Educational Opportunity Programs and Services Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 34, as introduced, Ducheny. Community colleges: educational opportunity programs.

This measure would designate the month of October 2009 as Educational Opportunity Programs and Services Month to honor the mission and purposes of the Extended Opportunity Programs and Services through the celebration and coordination of activities that advance educational equity principles.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, In the California Community Colleges system the  
2 Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) was  
3 established in 1969 to initiate access and retention efforts for  
4 first-generation, low-income, educationally disadvantaged, and  
5 historically underrepresented students; and  
6 WHEREAS, EOPS has served over 2,500,000 students at 110  
7 campuses of the California Community Colleges, and these  
8 students have made a positive impact on the business, economic,  
9 educational, and cultural fabric of the State of California; and  
10 WHEREAS, EOPS provides academic and transitional support  
11 services for nearly 110,000 students, and these services ensure  
12 educational access and justice, financial and academic support,  
13 opportunities to attain a college degree, and strategies that enable

1 community college students to transfer to baccalaureate institutions;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, EOPS has provided dynamic and innovative  
4 services in early outreach programs serving hundreds of thousands  
5 of potential EOPS applicants and summer bridge learning  
6 communities, and community building efforts that retain program  
7 students who impact the larger campus communities; and

8 WHEREAS, The Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education  
9 (CARE) Program was added in 1982 to expand services for  
10 welfare-dependent, single-parent EOPS students, and CARE has  
11 provided higher education access and supportive services, such as  
12 counseling, book services, tutoring, peer support, child care,  
13 transportation, school supplies, classes, and other activities  
14 addressing the special needs of 160,000 low-income, single-parent  
15 students; and

16 WHEREAS, EOPS and CARE are successful programs that  
17 bring hope, vision, guidance, and activism to underserved  
18 communities, that heighten the awareness of educational pathways  
19 and sociocultural opportunities, and that invest in developing the  
20 leaders of tomorrow; and

21 WHEREAS, EOPS trains, develops, and produces expertise in  
22 faculty and staff, thus enhancing the quality of services,  
23 organizational structures, and research on low-income,  
24 first-generation, and historically underrepresented students; and

25 WHEREAS, EOPS has successfully developed local partnerships  
26 among community-based organizations, public agencies, legislative  
27 institutions, universities, and kindergarten and grades 1 to 12,  
28 inclusive, public school systems; and

29 WHEREAS, EOPS ensures a diverse and representative voice  
30 for thousands of community members whose goal is to participate  
31 in, and enrich, the public education of California; now, therefore,  
32 be it

33 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
34 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby expresses its  
35 congratulations and appreciation to the California Community  
36 Colleges Extended Opportunity Programs and Services, for its  
37 historic and continued success in realizing the intent of landmark  
38 legislation, and the vision of the California Master Plan for Higher  
39 Education, in attaining educational equity goals and objectives;  
40 and be it further

1     *Resolved*, That the Legislature declares October 2009 as  
2 Educational Opportunity Programs and Services Month to honor  
3 the mission and purposes of the Extended Opportunity Programs  
4 and Services through the celebration and coordination of activities  
5 that advance educational equity principles; and be it further  
6     *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
7 this resolution to the governing board of each community college  
8 district in the state.

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